

SIN

- To SINGE. *v. a.* [*singan*, Saxon; *senghen*, Dutch.] To scorch; to burn slightly or superficially.
 They bound the doctor,
 Whose beard they have *sing'd* off with brands of fire. *Shak.*
 You sulph'rous and thought executing fires,
Singe my white head. *Shakespeare.*
 Drake, in the vaunting file of a soldier, would call this enterprize the *singing* of the king of Spain's beard. *Bacon.*
 That neither was *singed* in the combustion of Phaeton, nor overwhelmed by the inundation of Deucalion.
 They leave a *singed* bottom all involv'd
 With stench and smoke. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
Singed the toes of an ape through a burning glass, and he never would endure it after. *L'Estrange.*
 Thus riding on his curls he seem'd to pass
 A rolling fire along, and *singe* the grass. *Dryden.*
 SINGER. *n. f.* [*from sing.*] One that sings; one whose profession or business is to sing.
 His silencing was like an unskilful *singer*, he kept not time.
 I gat me men *singers* and women *singers*, and the delights of the sons of men. *Ecc. ii. 8.*
 To the chief *singer* on my fringed instruments. *Hab. iii.*
 Thy heart no ruder than the rugged stone,
 I might, like Orpheus, with my num'rous moan
 Melt to compassion: now my trait'rous song
 With thee conspires to do the *singer* wrong. *Waller.*
 Cockbirds amongst *singing* birds are ever the better *singers*, because they are more lively. *Bacon's Natural History.*
 The birds know how to chufe their fare;
 To peck this fruit they all forbear:
 Those cheerful *singers* know not why
 They should make any haste to die. *Waller.*
 The Grecian tragedy was at first nothing but a chorus of *singers*. *Dryden.*
 SINGINGMASTER. *n. f.* [*sing* and *master*.] One who teaches to sing.
 He employed an itinerant *singingmaster* to instruct them rightly in the tunes of the psalms. *Addison's Spectator.*
 SINGLE. *adj.* [*singulus*, Latin.]
 1. One; not double; not more than one.
 The words are clear and easy, and their originals are of single signification without any ambiguity. *South.*
 Some were *single* acts, though each compleat;
 But ev'ry act stood ready to repeat. *Dryden.*
 Then Theseus join'd with bold Pirithous came,
 A *single* concord in a double name. *Dryden.*
 High Alba,
 A lonely desert, and an empty land,
 Shall scarce afford, for needful hours of rest,
 A *single* house to their benighted guest. *Addison on Italy.*
 Where the poetry or oratory shines, a *single* reading is not sufficient to satisfy a mind that has a true taste; nor can we make the fullest improvement of them without proper reviews. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*
 2. Particular; individual.
 As no *single* man is born with a right of controuling the opinions of all the rest, so the world has no title to demand the whole time of any particular person. *Pope.*
 If one *single* word were to express but one simple idea, and nothing else, there would be scarce any mistake. *Watts.*
 3. Not compounded.
 As simple ideas are opposed to complex, and *single* ideas to compound, so propositions are distinguished: the English tongue has some advantage above the learned languages, which have no usual word to distinguish *single* from simple. *Watts.*
 4. Alone; having no companion; having no assistant.
 Servant of God, well hast thou fought
 The better fight, who *single* hast maintain'd
 Against revolted multitudes the cause of truth. *Milton.*
 His wisdom such,
 Three kingdoms wonder, and three kingdoms fear,
 Whilst *single* he stood forth. *Denham.*
 In sweet possession of the fairy place,
 Single and conscious to myself alone,
 Of pleasures to th' excluded world unknown. *Dryden.*
 5. Unmarried.
 Is the *single* man therefore blessed? no: as a walled town is more worthy than a village, so is the forehead of a married man more honourable than the bare brow of a bachelor. *Shak.*
 Pygmalion
 Abhor'd all womankind, but most a wife;
 So *single* chose to live, and thunn'd to wed,
 Well pleas'd to want a consort of his bed. *Dryden.*
 6. Not complicated; not duplicated.
 To make flowers double is effected by often removing them into new earth; as, on the contrary, double flowers, by neglecting and not removing, prove *single*. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
 7. Pure; uncorrupt; not double minded; simple. A scriptural sense.
 The light of the body is the eye: if thine eye be *single*, thy whole body shall be full of light. *Mat. vi. 22.*

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8. That in which one is opposed to one.
 He, when his country, threaten'd with alarms,
 Shall more than once the Punick bands affright,
 Shall kill the Gaulish king in *single* fight. *Dryden's Zen.*
 To SINGLE. *v. a.* [*from the adjective.*]
 1. To chuse out from among others.
 I saw him in the battle range about,
 And how he *singled* Clifford forth. *Shakof. Henry VI.*
 Every man may have a peculiar favour, which although not perceptible unto man, yet sensible unto dogs, who hereby can *single* out their master in the dark. *Brown.*
 Do'st thou already *single* me? I thought
 Giv'es and the mill had tam'd thee. *Milton's Agamemnon.*
 Begin, auspicious boy, to cast about
 Thy infant eyes, and with a smile thy mother *single* out. *Dry.*
 Single the lowliest of the am'rous youth;
 Alk for his vows, but hope not for his truth. *Prior.*
 2. To sequester; to withdraw.
 Yea simply, faith Basil, and universally, whether it be in works of nature, or of voluntary choice, I see not any thing done as it should be, if it be wrought by an agent *singling* itself from consorts. *Hooker.*
 3. To take alone.
 Many men there are, than whom nothing is more commendable when they are *singled*; and yet, in society with others, none less fit to answer the duties which are looked for at their hands. *Hooker.*
 4. To separate.
 Hardly they heard, which by good hunters *singled* are. *Sidn.*
 SINGLENESS. *n. f.* [*from single.*] Simplicity; sincerity; honest plainness.
 It is not the deepness of their knowledge, but the *singleness* of their belief, which God accepteth. *Hooker.*
 1. Individually; particularly.
 If the injured person be not righted, every one of them is wholly guilty of the injustice, and therefore bound to restitution *singly* and intirely. *Taylor's Rule of Living.*
 They tend to the perfection of human nature, and to make men *singly* and personally good, or tend to the happiness of society. *Tillotson's Sermons.*
 2. Only; by himself.
 Look thee, 'tis so; thou *singly* honest man,
 Here take the gods out of my misery
 Have sent thee treasure. *Shakof. Timon of Athens.*
 3. Without partners or associates.
 Belinda
 Burns to encounter two adventurous knights,
 At ombre *singly* to decide their doom. *Pope.*
 4. Honestly; simply; sincerely.
 SINGULAR. *adj.* [*singularis*, Fr. *singularis*, Latin.]
 1. Single; not complex; not compound.
 That idea which represents one particular determinate thing is called a *singular* idea, whether simple, complex, or compound. *Watts.*
 2. [In grammar.] Expressing only one; not plural.
 If St. Paul's speaking of himself in the first person *singular* has so various meanings, his use of the first person plural has a greater latitude. *Locke.*
 3. Particular; unexampled.
 So *singular* a sadness
 Must have a cause as strange as the effect. *Denham's Sappho.*
 Doubtless, if you are innocent, your case is extremely hard, yet it is not *singular*. *Female Quixote.*
 4. Having something not common to others. It is commonly used in a sense of disapprobation, whether applied to persons or things.
 His zeal
 None seconded, as *singular* and rash. *Milton.*
 It is very commendable to be *singular* in any excellency, and religion is the greatest excellency: to be *singular* in any thing that is wise and worthy is not a disparagement, but a praise. *Tillotson.*
 5. Alone; that of which there is but one.
 These bulls of the emperors and empresses are all very scarce, and some of them almost *singular* in their kind. *Addison.*
 SINGULARITY. *n. f.* [*singularitas*, Fr. *singularité*.]
 1. Some character or quality by which one is distinguished from others.
 Pliny addeth this *singularity* to that soil, that the second year the very falling down of the seeds yieldeth corn. *Raleigh.*
 Though, according to the practice of the world, it be singular for men thoroughly to live up to the principles of their religion, yet *singularity* in this matter is a singular commendation of it. *Tillotson's Sermons.*
 I took notice of this little figure for the *singularity* of the instrument: it is not unlike a violin. *Addison on Italy.*
 2. Any thing remarkable; a curiosity.
 Your gallery
 Have we pass'd through, not without much content
 In many *singularities*; but we saw not
 That which my daughter came to look upon,
 The statue of her mother. *Shak. Winter's Tale.*
 3. Particular

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- Particular privilege or prerogative.
 St. Gregory, being himself a bishop of Rome, and writing against the title of universal bishop, saith thus: none of all my predecessors ever consented to use this ungodly title; no bishop of Rome ever took upon him this name of *singularity*. *Hooker.*
 4. Character or manners different from those of others.
 The spirit of *singularity* in a few ought to give place to public judgment. *Hooker.*
Singularity in sin puts it out of fashion, since to be alone in any practice seems to make the judgment of the world against it; but the concurrence of others is a tacit approbation of that in which they concur. *South.*
 To SINGULARIZE. *v. a.* [*se singulariser*, Fr. *from singular.*]
 To make single.
 SINGULARLY. *adv.* [*from singular.*] Particularly; in a manner not common to others.
 Solitude and singularity can neither daunt nor disgrace him, unless we could suppose it a disgrace to be *singularly* good. *South.*
 SINGULUS. *n. f.* [*singulus*, Latin.] A sign.
 SINGULUS. *adj.* [*singulus*, Latin.]
 1. Being on the left hand; left; not right; not dexter.
 My mother's blood
 Runs on the dexter cheek, and this *singulus*
 Bounds in my fire's. *Shak. Troilus and Cressida.*
 Captain Spurio, with his cicatrice, an emblem of war, here on his *singulus* cheek. *Shak. All's well that ends well.*
 But a rib, crooked by nature, bent, as now appears,
 More to the part *singulus* from me drawn. *Milton's Pa. Lost.*
 The spleen is unjustly introduced to invigorate the *singulus* side, which, being dilated, would rather infirm and debilitate it. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
 In his *singulus* hand, instead of ball,
 He plac'd a mighty mug of potent ale. *Dryden.*
 2. Bad; perverse; corrupt; deviating from honesty; unfair.
 Is it so strange a matter to find a good thing furthered by ill men of a *singulus* intent and purpose, whose forwardness is not therefore a bribe to such as favour the same cause with a better and sincere meaning. *Hooker.*
 The duke of Clarence was soon after by *singulus* means made clean away. *Spenser on Ireland.*
 When are there more unworthy men chosen to offices, when is there more strife and contention about elections, or when do partial and *singulus* affections more utter themselves, than when an election is committed to many? *Whitgift.*
 He professes to have received no *singulus* measure from his judge, but most willingly humbles himself to the determination of justice. *Shakof. Measure for Measure.*
 Those may be accounted the left hands of courts; persons that are full of nimble and *singulus* tricks and shifts, whereby they pervert the plain courses of courts, and bring justice into oblique lines and labyrinths. *Bacon's Essays.*
 The just person has given the world an assurance, by the constant tenor of his practice, that he makes a conscience of his ways, and that he seems to undermine another's interest by any *singulus* or inferior arts. *South.*
 3. [*Singulus*, French.] Unlucky; inauspicious.
 Tempt it again: that is thy act, or none:
 What all the fœval ills that visit earth,
 Brought forth by night, with a *singulus* birth,
 Plagues, famines, fire, could not reach unto,
 The sword, nor surfeits, let thy fury do. *Bm. Johnson.*
 SINGULUS. *adj.* [*singulus*, Latin.] Absurd; perverse; wrong-headed.
 A knave or fool can do no harm, even by the most *singulus* and absurd choice. *Bentley.*
 SINGULUSLY. *adv.* [*from singulus*.]
 1. With a tendency to the left.
 Many in their infancy are *singulusly* disposed, and divers continue all their life left-handed, and have but weak and imperfect use of the right. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
 2. Perversely; absurdly.
 To SINK. *v. n.* pret. *I sunk*, anciently *sank*; part. *sunk* or *sunken*. [*singan*, Saxon; *sinken*, German.]
 1. To fall down through any medium; not to swim; to go to the bottom.
 Make his chronicle as rich with prize,
 As is the oozy bottom of the sea
 With *sunk*on wreck and sunless treasures. *Shakof. H. V.*
 In with the river *sunk*, and with it rose,
 Satan, involv'd in rising mist; then fought
 Where to lie hid. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ix.*
 He swims or *sinks*, or wades, or creeps or flies. *Milton.*
 The pirate *sinks* with his ill-gotten gains,
 And nothing to another's use remains. *Dryden.*
 Supposing several in a temple will rather perish than work, would it not be madness in the rest to chuse to *sink* together, rather than do more than their share? *Addison on the War.*
 2. To fall gradually.
 The arrow went out at his heart, and he *sunk* down in his chariot. *2 Kings ix. 24.*
 3. To enter or penetrate into any body.
 David took a stone and flung it, and smote the Philistine, that the stone *sunk* into his forehead. *1 Sa. xvii. 49.*

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4. To lose height: to fall to a level.
 In vain has nature form'd
 Mountains and oceans to oppose his passage;
 He bounds o'er all, victorious in his march;
 The Alps and Pyreneans *sink* before him. *Addison's Cato.*
 5. To lose or want prominence.
 What were his marks?—A lean cheek, a blue eye and *sunk*. *Shakof. As you like it.*
 Deep dinted wrinkles on her cheeks she draws;
Sunk are her eyes, and toothless are her jaws. *Dryden.*
 6. To be overwhelmed or depressed.
 Our country *sinks* beneath the yoke;
 It weeps, it bleeds, and each new day a gash
 Is added to her wounds. *Shakof. Macbeth.*
 They arraign'd shall *sink*
 Beneath thy sentence.
 But if you this ambitious pray'r deny,
 Then let me *sink* beneath proud Arcite's arms;
 And, I once dead, let him possess her charms. *Dryden.*
 7. To be received; to be impressed.
 Let these sayings *sink* down into your ears. *Lu. ix. 44.*
 Truth never *sinks* into these mens minds, nor gives any tincture to them. *Locke.*
 8. To decline; to decrease; to decay.
 This republic has been much more powerful than it is at present, as it is still likelier to *sink* than increase in its dominions. *Addison on Italy.*
 Let not the fire *sink* or slacken, but increase. *Mortimer.*
 9. To fall into rest or indolence.
 Would'st thou have me *sink* away
 In pleasing dreams, and lose myself in love,
 When every moment Cato's life's at stake? *Addison's Cato.*
 10. To fall into any state worse than the former; to tend to ruin.
 Nor urg'd the labours of my lord in vain,
 A *sinking* empire longer to sustain. *Dryden's Aen.*
 To SINK. *v. a.*
 1. To put under water; to dislodge from swimming or floating.
 A small fleet of English made an hostile invasion, or incursion, upon their havens and roads, and fired, *sunk*, and carried away ten thousand ton of their great shipping, besides smaller vessels. *Bacon.*
 2. To delve; to make by delving.
 At Saga in Germany they dig up iron in the fields by *sinking* ditches two foot deep, and in the space of ten years the ditches are digged again for iron since produced. *Boyle.*
 Near Geneva are quarries of freestone, that run under the lake: when the water is at lowest, they make within the borders of it a little square, inclosed within four walls: in this square they *sink* a pit, and dig for freestone. *Addison.*
 3. To depreß; to degrade.
 A mighty king I am, an earthly god;
 I raise or *sink*, imprison or set free;
 And life or death depends on my decree. *Prior.*
 Trifling painters or sculptors bestow infinite pains upon the most insignificant parts of a figure, till they *sink* the grandeur of the whole. *Pope's Essay on Homer.*
 4. To plunge into destruction.
 Heav'n bear witness,
 And if I have a conscience let it *sink* me,
 Ev'n as the ax falls, if I be not faithful. *Shakespeare.*
 5. To make to fall.
 These are so far from raising mountains, that they overturn and fling down some before standing, and undermine others, *sinking* them into the abyss. *Woodward.*
 6. To bring low; to diminish in quantity.
 When on the banks of an unlook'd-for stream,
 You *sunk* the river with repeated draughts,
 Who was the last in all your host that thirsted? *Addison.*
 7. To crush; to overbear; to depreß.
 That Hector was in certainty of death, and depreßed with the conscience of an ill cause: if you will not grant the first of these will *sink* the spirit of a hero, you'll at least allow the second may. *Pope.*
 8. To lessen; to diminish.
 They catch at all opportunities of ruining our trade, and *sinking* the figure which we make. *Addison on the War.*
 I mean not that we should *sink* our figure out of covetousness, and deny ourselves the proper conveniences of our station, only that we may lay up a superfluous treasure. *Rogers.*
 9. To make to decline.
 Thy cruel and unnatural lust of power
 Has *sunk* thy father more than all his years,
 And made him wither in a green old age.
 To labour for a *sunk* corrupted state.
 10. To suppress; to conceal; to intercept.
 If sent with ready money to buy any thing, and you happen to be out of pocket, *sink* the money, and take up the goods on account. *Swift's Rules to Servants.*
 SINK. *n. f.* [*sunc*, Saxon.]
 1. A drain; a jakes.
 Should by the cormorant tell be restrain'd,
 Who is the *sink* o' th' body. *Shakespeare. Coriolanus.*
 Bad